



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/581,810	03/12/2007	Luis Miguel Ortega Mora	HERR13.001APC	1935
20995	7590	11/21/2007	EXAMINER	
KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP			MAASHO, KERIMA K	
2040 MAIN STREET			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
FOURTEENTH FLOOR				
IRVINE, CA 92614			1645	
NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE			
11/21/2007	ELECTRONIC			

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

jcartee@kmob.com
eOAPilot@kmob.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/581,810	ORTEGA MORA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Kerima Maasho	1645

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06/02/2006.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 1-18 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-3, 5-8, 10-11, 15-18 drawn to polynucleotides, oligonucleotides, recombinant vector, immunogenic composition encompassing polynucleotides, and a vaccination kit containing polynucleotide.

Group II, claim(s) 9, 15-18, drawn to a polypeptide, and immunogenic composition encompassing polypeptide, a vaccination kit containing polypeptide.

Group III, claim(s) 12-14, drawn to diagnostic methods requiring antibodies.

Group IV, claim 11, drawn to a second method of using the polynucleotides of Group I.

2. The inventions listed as Groups I-IV do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Group I is drawn to polynucleotides isolated from *Neospora caninum*. The technical feature of group I is not special in view of Risco-Castillo (COST Action 857 and HHMI 1st PhD students workshop, Sept 12th-15th, 2004). Risco-Castillo teaches polynucleotide molecules comprising nucleotide sequences encoding SAG4 proteins from *Neospora caninum*.

Furthermore, Group III requires antibodies, which are not claimed, therefore, there is no shared technical feature with groups I, II and IV. Group IV is a second method of using the product of group I.

3. This application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. These species are deemed to lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

The species are as follows:

Species I) Oligonucleotide: SEQ ID NO; 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13 or 14

If group I is elected Applicants must further elect one of the oligonucleotide sequences e.g. SEQ ID NO: 2

Species II) polypeptide or recombinant protein are: A) unchanged:- antigenic protein NcSAG4 of *N. caninum*, characterized by SEQ ID NO:10, B) changed:- chemical or enzymatic change of the protein, C) modified:- a substantial portion of the protein is chemically or enzymatically modified

If group II is elected Applicants must further elect either a polypeptide or a recombinant protein with one of the changes of A-C

Species III) Serological diagnosis is by: ELISA, RIA, immunohistochemistry or immunofluorescence.

If group II is elected Applicants must further elect one of the serological methods of diagnosis.

Species IV) an immunogenic composition is: A) a polypeptide B) a polynucleotide molecule C) a recombinant vector D) transfected host cells E) transformed host cells.

Depending on which group is elected Applicants must further elect one of the immunogenic compositions.

Applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single species to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The reply must also identify the claims readable on the elected species, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered non-responsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

4. The claims are deemed to correspond to the species listed above in the following manner:

Species I) Oligonucleotide sequences; claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11,
Species II) The polypeptide or recombinant protein; claim 9
Species III) Serological diagnosis; claims 12-14
Species IV) An immunogenic composition; claims 15-18

The following claim(s) are generic: 1, 10.

5. The species listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Species I) Each oligonucleotide sequence is structurally and functionally different.

Species II) Each polypeptide or recombinant protein will be different structurally and functionally as a result of a chemical or enzymatic change or modification.

Art Unit: 1645.

Species III) Serological diagnosis tools are different one from the other in the reagent requirement as well as the steps that are used.

Species IV) The immunogenic composition comprises molecules that are different in structure, chemical composition and mode of action.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Art Unit: 1645

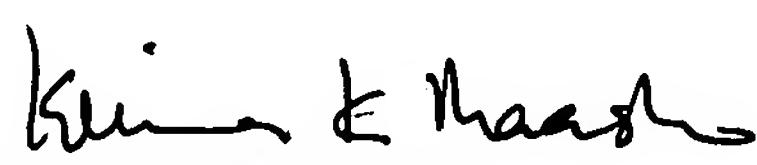
Conclusion

Claims 1-18 are subject to election/restrictions.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kerima Maasho whose telephone number is 571-270-3055. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 7:30am-5:00pm, ALT. Friday, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bruce Campell can be reached on 571-272-0974. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


/Kerima Maasho/
Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1645

/Bruce Campell/
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Units 1645 (acting) and 1648